have been rejected on the ground that these churches are not British subjects in the sense that they are legal, moral, or juristic persons ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"The hon. Member will see that in the second sentence in the same clause (c) it is stated : 'The rules lay down that the previous sanction of the Government is required to the assignment of land to persons who are not British subjects nor subjects of Indian States.' No case has come to the notice of Government where such previous sanction has been refused."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I ask, Sir, whether the Government and the Collector have been treating these churches as foreign bodies and as such not entitled to any assignment of land ?"

The hon. Sir. NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I think it was answered on a previous occasion that the Government were advised that the property of the Catholic church vested in His Holiness the Pope."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am not speaking of all the Catholic churches; I am speaking of the particular churches mentioned here which are in British India and which were formerly treated as entitled to free land assignments. I want to know whether these churches are treated as foreign bodies ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I assumed, Sir, that these churches were part of the Catholic church. I must make enquiries whether if the hon. Members suggest that they are separate bodies."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I am only speaking of the churches built in South Kanara, i.e., in British India, by British-Indian subjects ; I am not speaking of Catholic churches all over the world. I want to know whether these churches in South Kanara are treated as foreign bodies."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I can only say that the Government are advised that the property of all Roman Catholic churches is vested in His Holiness the Pope."

Land Revenue

Cultivation of tank-bed submersion porambokes in Velliyur village.

*354 Q.—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether survey Nos. 230, 231 and 232 of Velliyur village, No. 109 of Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, were classed as "Tank-bed submersion porambokes" in the settlements of 1871 and 1911 and have continued to be the same up to date ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these survey numbers are allowed for cultivation by the Revenue Department in spite of the opposition of the Public Works Department ;

(c) if so, whether it is not contrary to the existing rules for the preservation of tank-bed submersion fields ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the villagers of the said village have issued a notice to the Government of a contemplated suit for prohibiting the said cultivation ; and

(e) whether the Government will be pleased to prohibit the cultivation of about 20 acres of the abovesaid survey numbers which are tank-bed submersion porambokes ?

A.—(a) The survey numbers were classed as "Government, dry" at the settlement of 1878 and as "Tank-bed poramboke" at the resettlement of 1911. The Government are not aware whether the survey numbers continue to be classed as poramboke.

(b) & (c) The Government are not aware whether the facts are as stated in clause (b).

(d) No such notice has been received by the Government.

(e) The Government are not aware of any reasons for making such an order. The question is one for the decision of the Collector in the first instance.

Loans

Reduction of the rate of interest on agricultural loans.

* 355 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what action has been taken on the resolution passed by this House on 24th January 1928 to reduce the interest on Government loans to ryots from 7½ per cent to 5 per cent?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to item 7 of the statement showing the action taken on resolutions passed by the Legislative Council during the second session 1927–28 laid on the table on 3rd September 1928.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"If I remember aright, the Government on the last occasion said that the matter was being considered. The resolution was passed about ten months ago. May I know, Sir, what stage of consideration has been reached now?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"I am glad to be able to tell the hon. Member that the report of the Board of Revenue on the subject was received on Saturday and that we hope to be able to deal with it shortly."

Minor Irrigation

Relief in respect of the Tamarai-madugu.

*356 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to question No. 889 answered on the 22nd October 1927 regarding relief in respect of Tamarai-madugu tank in the Chingleput district—

(a) whether the Government have received the report they have called for;

(b) if answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will place the report on the Council table; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to direct the local officers to attend immediately to the silt-clearance work in the tank?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Copies[a] of the Board's Proceedings and the Supervisor's note are placed on the table of the House.

(c) The Government understand that the work has been completed.

---

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 111 infra.